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Marc Lafrance
Technology Development Manager
United States Department of Energy, Office of Building Technology
1J-018, EE-2J
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585-0121

Dear Mr. Lafrance:

ZETA Communities is pleased to offer support for the R-5 Windows Volume Purchase being pursued by the Department of Energy. We understand that the project's purpose is to increase the availability and facilitate wider market adoption of highly insulating windows.

ZETA produces net zero energy multifamily housing and mixed-use structures for sustainable communities. ZETA's off-site systems-built structures, exceed the performance of site-built at no additional cost while minimizing resources, waste and CO2 emissions. ZETA's goal is to achieve one of the first nationally scalable solutions to delivering net zero energy construction at affordable price points – directly aligning with DOE's goals. We have been a DOE Building America partner for the last two years, and just finalized an agreement to participate again in 2010.

Using a whole-systems design approach, high performance materials, an innovative mechanical core, and a proprietary zTherm™ controller system, ZETA homes require 40%-60% less energy overall and 65% less energy for heating, cooling, and hot water than a comparable structure. To achieve net zero energy, ZETA homes use grid-tied photovoltaic systems and other clean energy sources.

ZETA plans to produce over 3,800 units by 2014. We project the construction of these units will eliminate the creation of approximately 2 million tons of CO2 emissions throughout the 50-year life cycle of all buildings ZETA produces between 2010 and 2014.

As a major cost component, high performance windows have a substantial impact on delivering truly affordable net zero energy and ultra energy efficient buildings to the mass market. We look forward to working with the DOE to scale energy efficient construction through this initiative.

Sincerely,

Shilpa Sankaran
Vice President, Business Operations
ZETA Communities

